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BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH



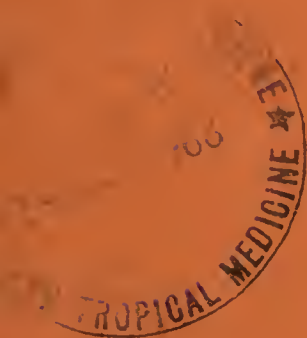
ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health of the Borough

for the year

1967





BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH  
A N N U A L   R E P O R T

ON THE  
HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH  
FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 7

by

D.J.N. McNAB, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health

and

CLEMENT WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing  
Superintendent

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1967.

Councillor Miss C. Sharp (Chairman, Jan. - April)(Jan. - December)  
Councillor R. Affleck (Chairman, June - Dec.)(Jan. - December)  
The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor E.N.S. Spreadbury (Jan. - April)  
The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor W.A. Bridge (June - December)  
Alderman Miss E.I. Padwick (January - April)  
Alderman K.L. Smith (January - December)  
Councillor Mrs. I.A. Stevenson (January - December)  
Councillor M. Lynk (January - December)  
Councillor T. Staniforth (January - December)  
Councillor W.C.F. Horsford (January - December)  
Councillor J.S. Morgan (January - April)  
Councillor J. Beauchamp (June - December)  
Councillor M.V. Pritchard (June)  
Councillor W.F.S. Freestone (September - December)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

D.J.N. McNAB, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Ringwood  
and Fordingbridge and Borough of Lymington and an Assistant  
County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire.

Address: Druitt Buildings, Christchurch.  
Telephone No: Christchurch 4321.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

CLEMENT WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

A.F. Saunders, Cert. S.I.B.  
D.J. Cartridge, Cert. S.I.B.  
R.F. Blinkhorn, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1967

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

I submit for your information and consideration my twenty-first Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Borough.

As an integral part of this Report there follows the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on those sections of the work of the Health Department with which he is specially concerned.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS:

The ancient Borough of Christchurch lies in the extreme south-west corner of the Administrative County of Hampshire, at the confluence of the rivers Avon and Stour. A pleasantly equable climate is ensured by the town's coastal situation, its vast land locked harbour, and the raised ground to the west which breaks the full force of the prevailing south-west winds. This, and the proximity of the New Forest, makes it a favoured area in which to live.

As a result the population has risen steadily over the thirty five years since the District was formed, by 170% overall and by 57% in the past 20 years, until now the total has reached 30,270. Latterly the increase has been almost entirely by immigration; only once in the past ten years has the number of births exceeded the number of deaths. The town is therefore developing an ageing population with a rising death rate and a falling birth rate. One would like to see this trend reversed; perhaps the post war generation, now reaching marriageable age, will redress the balance.

There is a wide variety of industry in and around the area.



RAINFALL FOR 1967: (at Sewage Disposal Works, Stony Lane)

	<u>Ins.</u>		<u>Ins.</u>
January...	... 3.5	July...	... .91
February..	... 2.99	August.	... 2.24
March ...	... 1.99	September ...	... 3.85
April ...	... .85	October ...	... 6.43
May ...	... 3.11	November ...	... 1.82
June ...	... .77	December ...	... 2.04

TOTAL: 30.50 inches

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area: 4,807 acres (Census 1961)

Population: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1967: 30,270.

Number of inhabited houses: 11,182.

Rateable Value: 31.3.67: £1,699,433.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £6,948. 14s. 2d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1967: (as supplied by the Registrar-General)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of</u>	<u>England and</u>
				<u>Christchurch</u>	<u>Wales</u>

LIVE BIRTHS:

Total ...	...	374	187	187
Legitimate ...	...	341	167	174
Illegitimate ...	...	33	20	13

LIVE BIRTH RATE:(Comparability factor 1.39)

per 1,000 population ...	...	12.3	17.2
after application of comparability factor		17.2	

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of Christchurch</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
<u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS:</u>					

per cent of total live births ... 8.8

STILL BIRTHS:

Total...	...	5	1	4
Legitimate	...	5	1	4
Illegitimate....		-	-	-

STILL BIRTH RATE:

per 1,000 total (live & still births 13.2 14.8

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS: 379.

INFANT DEATHS:

Deaths under one year of age

Total...	...	9	5	4
Legitimate	...	7	4	3
Illegitimate	...	2	1	1

Deaths under 4 weeks of age

Total...	...	6	3	3
Legitimate	...	5	3	2
Illegitimate	...	1	-	1

Deaths under one week of age

Total...	...	4	2	2
Legitimate	...	3	2	1
Illegitimate	...	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

per 1,000 live births - Total ... 24.1 18.3  
per 1,000 live births - Legitimate 20.5  
per 1,000 live births - Illegitimate 60.6



<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of Christchurch</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
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NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:

Deaths under 4 weeks

per 1,000 live births ...	...	16.0	12.5
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EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:

Deaths under one week

per 1,000 live births ...	...	10.7	10.8
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PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE:

Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined

per 1,000 total (live & still) births	23.7	25.4
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MATERNAL DEATHS: (Including abortion) Nil

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE:

per 1,000 total (live & still) births	Nil	0.20
---------------------------------------	-----	------

DEATHS: 476 226 250

DEATH RATE: Comparability factor 0.65)

per 1,000 population ...	...	15.7	11.2
after application of comparability factor		10.2	

SPECIAL CAUSES:

Death rate per 1,000 population

Tuberculosis ...	...	0.07	0.04
Cancer (lung and bronchus)	...	0.59	0.58
Cancer (all causes)	...	2.34	2.27

CAUSES OF DEATH:

			<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory...	...	-	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease ...	...	1	-
4.	Diphtheria ...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough ...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infection ...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis...	...	-	-
8.	Measles ...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases		-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach. ...	...	4	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.		16	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast..	...	-	10
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus..	...	-	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		15	18
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia. ...	...	-	-
16.	Diabetes ...	...	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.		31	42
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	...	66	60
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	...	1	5
20.	Other heart disease...	...	25	25
21.	Other circulatory disease...	...	11	19
22.	Influenza ...	...	2	1
23.	Pneumonia ...	...	11	18
24.	Bronchitis ...	...	12	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system		4	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	...	2	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.		-	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	...	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations ...	...	3	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		15	22
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	4	2
34.	All other accidents...	...	1	5
35.	Suicide ...	...	1	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	...	-	-
Total (all causes)			226	250

## COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS:

(Since the District was formed in 1932)

Year	Population	Borough of Christchurch			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1932	11,250	62.5	17.0	11.3	65	15.3	12.0
1937	13,540	45.0	14.8	12.5	58	14.9	12.4
1942	15,200	30.0	17.5	13.3	49	15.8	11.6
1947	18,180	30.0	19.7	12.8	41	20.5	12.0
1952	21,290	21.9	14.9	11.0	27.6	15.3	11.3
1957	23,790	9.0	14.0	12.9	23.0	16.1	11.5
1962	26,640	11.9	12.6	15.1	21.4	18.0	11.9
1963	27,180	18.2	14.2	15.2	20.9	18.2	12.2
1964	28,000	7.8	13.6	13.5	20.0	18.4	11.3
1965	28,630	18.5	13.2	14.5	19.0	18.1	11.5
1966	29,610	10.9	12.4	15.5	19.0	17.7	11.7
1967	30,270	24.1	12.3	15.7	18.3	17.2	11.2

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASE:

Disease	Number notified
Measles...	446
Whooping Cough...	18
Pneumonia...	2
Dysentery...	1

## TUBERCULOSIS:

		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
No. on Register at 31.12.67	...	163	109	17	21	308
No. of new notifications...	...	-	1	-	-	1
Transfers from other areas.	...	3	2	-	-	5
Deaths...	...	-	2	-	-	2



## LUNG CANCER:

18 cases occurred, one less than last year but nevertheless maintaining our average number of deaths per annum over the past five years at 20.6. In the past 10 years 173 persons have died in the Borough from this supremely unpleasant and largely avoidable disease.

The national death rate continues to rise each year. In 1967 the deaths increased by 1,231 to 28,250, an increase almost double that of the previous year. Lung cancer now constitutes 26.5% of all cancers and is the only one which is steadily increasing in prevalence year by year. It is a sobering thought when we consider that this cancer is largely self inflicted and is only part of the enormous mortality and morbidity caused by the consumption of cigarettes.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA:

### 1. Laboratory facilities.

The Borough is very well served by the Public Health Laboratory at Boscombe, which is under the direction of Dr. G.J.G. King.

The following list of specimens from the area, examined at the Laboratory during the year, has been kindly supplied by the Director.

Faeces and Urine ...	39
Ice Cream ...	175
Water... ..	72
Food ... ..	44
Other Sanitary ...	60
Milk ... ..	31
Other human..	20
	<u>441</u>

### 2. Hospitals.

Christchurch Hospital - acute and chronic.

The majority of patients from the Borough requiring hospital treatment go to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Bournemouth.

Cases of infectious disease are treated at the new infectious diseases unit at Poole General Hospital.

### 3. Tuberculosis.

The chest clinic is held at Christchurch Hospital where the Chest Physician holds a joint appointment with the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council. Dr. Stuart Robertson who has been the Chest Physician for the past 15 years retired at the end of the year to be succeeded by Dr. A.T. Hendry. The community owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Robertson for his work over the years.

The Bournemouth Mass Radiography Unit of which Dr. Robertson was Medical Director has been reduced in scope. Public sessions will no longer be held owing to the marked reduction in the "pick up" rate from the general public, but facilities for family doctors have been improved in order that the groups most at risk, notably men over 45, can be more readily x-rayed.

The Voluntary Care and After Care Committee under the Chairmanship of Lady Manners, which has provided extra comforts for tuberculous patients for many years, is shortly to be disbanded owing to the lack of demand for its services.

#### SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL:

##### 1. Ambulance Service.

The area Ambulance Service is provided from a main station at Lymington with sub-stations at Christchurch and Ringwood. All ambulances are fitted with wireless and are controlled from a central control at Winchester, to which all requests for ambulance services must be directed.

The Central Ambulance Control,  
Queens Road,  
Winchester.

Tel: Winchester 61644.

Emergency 999 calls are routed direct to central control.



## 2. Nursing Services.

Details of Nurses and their areas:-

<u>District served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Service</u>
Attached to Dr. Bolton and Dr. Cantlie, also unattached work in Christchurch area not covered by Nurse Mitchell	Miss M. Ellwood, 2, Felton Crescent, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 3426	MIDWIFE
Purewell, Mudeford, south side of Somerford Road and Friars Cliff.	Miss E. Mitchell, 25, Stanpit, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 6204	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Christchurch - north of Barrack Road, The Grove and Stour Way	Mrs. A.E. Gutheridge, 36, Walcott Avenue, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 4729	DISTRICT NURSE
Attached to Dr. Carr, Dr. Wyatt, and Dr. Scott Jupp	Mrs. Q. Boothby, 50, Hunt Road, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 5091	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Christchurch - south of Barrack Road, The Grove and Stour Way, Somerford Estate.	Miss K. Ella, 13, Edward Road, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 2225	DISTRICT NURSE
Attached to Dr. Falkner Lee, Dr. Brooks and Dr. Harcourt Webster.	Mrs. I. Sherwood, 2, Bracken Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 3282	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Attached to Dr. Falkner Lee, Dr. Brooks, and Dr. Harcourt Webster.	Miss K.I. Webb, 280, Lymington Road, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 2061	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE AND HEALTH VISITOR
Christchurch	Mrs. E.G. Sprackland, 12, Carisbrooke Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 2433	DISTRICT NURSE (part-time relief)

## Health Visitors.

<u>District served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>
Attached to Dr. Carr, Dr. Wyatt and Dr. Scott Jupp and also unattached work in Christchurch west, Hurn, North Kingston, Ripley and Bisterne.	Miss D. Hayes, 61, Baring Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth. Tel: Bournemouth 47334
Christchurch East, Mundeford. Also unattached work in Highcliffe and Walkford.	Miss E.M. Gibbs, 4, Sandy Lane, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 2015
Somerford and Purewell, also geriatric work in area served by Christchurch Hospital.	Miss E. Sheldon, 97, The Grove, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 6260
Christchurch Chest Clinic Health Visitor. Also unattached work in Central Christchurch and Burton.	Mrs. E. Stone, 17, Springfield Avenue, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 3269
Walkford area	Miss B. Leadbitter, 36, Fairfield Road, Barton-on-Sea, New Milton. Tel: New Milton 4744
Christchurch (Relief Part-time)	Mrs. M. Monk, 12, South Avenue, New Milton. Tel: New Milton 2116.

### 3. Home Help Service

Divisional Organiser, Mrs. M. Bowler, 12 Empress Road, Lyndhurst. Tel: Lyndhurst 2762.

#### 4. Child Welfare Clinics.

<u>Child Welfare Centre</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Christchurch	County Council Health Centre Millhams Street	Every Tuesday 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Somerford	Social Centre Southey Road	Every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.
Highcliffe	St. Mark's Hall	Third Friday in month at 2.30 p.m.

#### 5. School Health Service.

School medical inspections are carried out periodically by Assistant County Medical Officers and Health Visitors.

Minor ailment and special clinics are held at the Millhams Street Health Centre.

#### 6. Smallpox Vaccination.

Treatment is principally carried out by family doctors but is also available at Child Welfare Centres.

Records for children up to the age of 16 are maintained by your Medical Officer of Health on behalf of the County Medical Officer. Vaccination is free but family doctors normally charge for any certificate required.

Number of Record Cards received for 1967

Age	Months				Years			Total
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 year	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	1	3	2	8	203	56	28	301
Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	2	59	61



7. Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis

Treatment is carried out by family doctors and at Child Welfare Centres and Schools. Records are at present maintained by your Medical Officer of Health on behalf of the County Medical Officer, but will eventually be transferred to the County computer.

A good response to immunisation has been maintained.

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total
	1967	1966	1965	1964	1960-63		
<u>DIPHTHERIA- WHOOPING COUGH &amp; TETANUS</u>							
Primary	148	210	22	23	17	5	425
Re-inforcing	-	42	120	27	227	23	339
<u>DIPHTHERIA-TETANUS</u>							
Primary	-	-	1	-	10	7	18
Re-inforcing	-	1	2	1	30	260	294
<u>DIPHTHERIA ONLY</u>							
Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Re-inforcing	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
<u>POLIOMYELITIS</u>							
Primary	72	292	24	12	41	6	447
Re-inforcing	-	2	7	6	239	19	273

## SCHOOLS:

The Secondary Schools remain well filled with many children remaining for a full five year course, culminating in G.C.E. or C.S.E. certificate, and with many proceeding to further advanced education.

Extensions to the Grammar School are in the course of construction.

There are now open air swimming pools at Twynham and Somerford Secondary Schools and at Christchurch and Highcliffe Junior Schools. These pools are fully used and serve, in addition, other neighbouring schools.

## WATER:

Christchurch is supplied with water by the West Hampshire Water Company whose works are situated within the Borough. The Company, in addition, supplies part of Bournemouth, the whole of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, part of the New Forest Rural District and part of the Borough of Lymington. Partially treated water in bulk is also pumped to the oil refinery at Fawley.

The raw water is drawn from the River Avon at Christchurch and treated by slow sand filtration and super chlorination. In addition the Company has a source of supply from deep boreholes in the chalk at Hale Park, some 16 miles north of Christchurch near the Wiltshire border. This supply serves Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District and also supplements the supply in Christchurch.

Raw and treated waters are examined daily at the Company's own water testing laboratory which is in charge of a qualified chemist and bacteriologist. In addition, periodic independent samples are sent to an outside laboratory.

The supply of water to the consumer is constant, of moderate hardness, free from plumbo solvent action, and entirely free from metals.

The Company's records show 11,039 separately assessed domestic dwellings to be supplied from their mains in Christchurch. No standpipes are in use.



A typical result of an examination of the treated water is shown below:-

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received 26.7.67

from WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY

Chemical results in parts per million

Appearance:	Clear and bright.	
Turbidity (A.P.H.A. units):	Nil.	
Colour (Hazen):	5.	Odour: Nil.
pH:	7.8.	Free Carbon Dioxide: 6.
Electric Conductivity:	410.	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C: 300.
	Reciprocal Megohms per cm.	
Chlorine present as Chloride:	18.	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 185
Hardness: Total	220.	Carbonate: 185. Non-carbonate: 35.
Nitrate Nitrogen:	3.0.	Nitrite Nitrogen: Approx: 0.01.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen:	0.03.	Oxygen absorbed: 0.65.
Albuminoid Nitrogen:	0.04.	Residual Chlorine: 0.13.
Metals: Iron, Zinc, Copper, Lead:	Absent.	

Bacteriological Results.

	( 1 day at 37°C	2 days at 37°C	3 days at 20-22°C
Number of colonies(			
developing on Agar(	2 per ml	6 per ml	2 per ml

	<u>Present in</u>	<u>Absent from</u>	<u>Most probable number</u>
Presumptive Coliform reaction	...ml	100ml	0 per 100 ml
Bact. coli.(Type 1)	...ml	100ml	0 per 100 ml
Cl. Welchii reaction	...ml	100ml	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. It is of a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These are satisfactory results indicating a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

## SEWERAGE:

The Christchurch Works remain overloaded but again, as the result of careful management, no complaint of nuisance has arisen. Extensions to the Works commenced in April and satisfactory progress has been made. Completion is expected by January 1969.

Liquid sludge continues to be removed by tanker and has been distributed on farm land in the neighbourhood of the Works.

The Jumpers scheme was completed during the year and discharge to the Works commenced in October.

The Mudeford scheme is at present awaiting loan sanction and a public enquiry will be held. Negotiations for all the land required have been completed, with the exception of the Purewell pumping station. It is hoped that tenders will be invited towards the end of 1968.

## FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

Routine supervision of food premises has continued. Standards, in general, remain satisfactory.

## HOUSING:

362 private houses were built during the year as compared with 285 in 1966. In addition, 32 dwellings were constructed for old people by the Christchurch Old People's Welfare and Housing Society. Council construction consisted of 48 houses on the Airfield Site.

The following details relating to housing accommodation and the current waiting list have been kindly supplied by the Housing Officer - Mrs. M. Clark.

Families housed in Council accommodation: 88.

There were 325 applicants on the housing list, made up as follows:-

<u>No. in family</u>	<u>No. of applicants</u>	<u>Total personnel</u>
1	20	20
2	96	192
3	126	378
4	28	112
5	21	105
6	2	12
7	2	14
	<u>295</u>	<u>833</u>

Applications from Revvo Castor Co: 3  
Demolitions: 2

Applicants for Old People's Dwellings

Strete Mount	6
Gordon Mount	9
Rutland and Sydney Roads	10

Applicants on General List

<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
259	316	292	283	325

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47:

No action was required under this Section.

GENERAL REMARKS:

The health of the Borough was satisfactory throughout the year.

Apart from the expected outbreak of Measles the incidence of infectious disease was low. The Measles outbreak produced the largest number of cases ever recorded in one year in the Borough. With the introduction of vaccination against Measles these high figures may never again occur.

The estimated mid-year population increased by 660 to 30,270. Deaths exceeded births by 102, indicating an influx of 762 immigrants during the year.

The birth rate fell for the fourth successive year and is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough.

The infant mortality rate rose.

The death rate again rose and was the highest since 1959. 57.3% of all deaths were inhabitants over the age of 75.

My sincere thanks are due to colleagues in other departments for their advice and assistance, and above all to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal co-operation at all times.

D.J.N. McN/B

May, 1968.

Medical Officer of Health



BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

R E P O R T

OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

FOR THE YEAR

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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

I have pleasure in presenting to you my third Annual Report covering the work of the Department during the year ending 31st December 1967.

The work of the department has generally progressed in a satisfactory manner. Following the resignation of Mrs. Momber, who has moved from the area, a Male Clerk, Mr. R. Bussell, was appointed and to help cope with the increasing volume of work a Junior Clerk, Miss N. Garle, was appointed at about the same time. This has led to a definite improvement in the office section. A Student Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. White, was also appointed during the year.

HOUSING.

Further progress has been made and, as a result, ~~Further~~ <sup>FOUR</sup> demolition orders were served and twenty-two properties have been repaired.

The steady progress being made in this direction is expected to continue.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Last year I reported that the public showed an apparent lack of interest in Food Hygiene and perhaps as a result of publicity in the local press the number of complaints received has increased. Two firms were prosecuted, one was for the sale of Baby Rusks which were several years old and contained mould. The other a packet of Porridge Oats which had been manufactured about eighteen months previously and was infested with moths. Both cases were proved.

As much time as possible is spent in inspecting all food premises to ensure that a high standard of hygiene is maintained.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

Food of all descriptions is inspected at the request of any trader in the area. If any shopkeeper has any doubts about the fitness of any food he has simply to contact the Department. The food will be inspected and he will be advised accordingly. Should the food prove to be unsound it is taken away to be buried in the refuse tip under the supervision of the Inspector.

The following is a list of food condemned during the year.

Meat.....	16 cwts. 2 qrs. 9 lbs.
Cooked Meat and Meat Products.....	4 cwts. 1 qr. 2 lbs.
Canned Meat.....	1 cwt. 0 qrs. 4 lbs.
Other foods.....	2 cwts. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.
Mixed tins Fruit, Fish and Vegetables.....	1537 tins.
Packets Frozen Foods due to breakdowns in refrigeration.....	2255 packets.

## SAMPLING.

The sampling of food and drugs for adulteration is the responsibility of the County Council. Their Chief Inspector, Mr. J.S. Preston, performs these duties, and I am indebted to him for the following details of samples taken during the year ended 31st March 1968.

"During the year ended on 31st March, 1968, 93 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the Borough of Christchurch.

### Milk Samples

18 samples of Milk, including two of "Channel Islands", were taken and all were found to be satisfactory.

### Miscellaneous Samples

75 samples of articles other than milk were obtained, two being the subject of adverse reports. One of the latter, which was submitted as a result of a consumer complaint, consisted of a sample of Blackcurrant Fruit Pie which was seriously affected by mould and was generally out of condition. Legal proceedings were taken and the magistrates imposed a fine of £5, together with costs amounting to £6. 16s. 0d.

The other adverse report was in respect of a sample of cream cheese. This contained 26.9 per cent of fat, whereas the minimum fat content for cream cheese required by the Cheese Regulations is 45 per cent. The product had been supplied to the retailer in a container which did not bear the appropriate description "Full Fat Soft Cheese", in accordance with the Regulations, and was referred to in the accompanying invoice as "Creamery Cheese". In the circumstances, the description was considered to be potentially ambiguous and the retailer, in fact, asserted that the salesman from whom he obtained the cheese had verbally described it as "Cream Cheese". Proceedings were taken against the producer concerned and fines amounting to £20, together with costs of £9. 19s. 0d., were imposed.

### General

In addition to the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. There were no serious complaints concerning these matters."

### MILK SUPPLY.

There was slight increase in the number of persons retailing milk and there are now three dealers licensed to sell the new Ultra Heat Treated Milk.

All milk retailed in the borough is bottled at establishments outside the district.

The following list shows the number of dairies and persons registered as distributors, and the number of and type of licences in force:-

Number of distributors of milk.....	88.
Number of dairies on register.....	3.
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Untreated Milk.....	10.
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Pasteurised Milk.....	67.
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Sterilised Milk.....	29.
Dealers licensed to use the designation	
Ultra Heat Treated Milk.....	3.



### ICE CREAM.

The Department has continued to obtain regular samples of ice cream and I am pleased to report that these were of a very high standard.

175 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, the results being as follows:-

Grade 1.	.....	149.
Grade 2.	.....	17.
Grade 3.	.....	3.
Grade 4.	.....	6.

### DRAINAGE.

All new drainage work is carefully supervised and tested by your Inspectors on receipt of notification from the builders, and existing drains are dealt with on complaint.

The number of properties not drained to sewers, and the facilities available are:-

Draining to Septic Tanks	.....	98.
Draining to Cesspools	.....	47.
Bucket Latrines	.....	15.

### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES.

Pressure of work in other sections have again prevented us from giving this part of our work the attention it deserves. Nevertheless some progress was made and two prosecutions were authorised by the Council but these were finally resolved without the necessity of Court proceedings.

There still appears to be many people who are unaware that the parking of caravans on a site is unlawful unless a licence is obtained. I am hoping that during the coming year stronger action will be taken against offenders.

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Regular inspections have been carried out on all premises coming within the scope of this Act, and progress has been made in obtaining compliance with outstanding notices. One prosecution was taken under this section.

It is interesting to note that whilst the number of premises have increased slightly there has been a small reduction in the total number of employees.

The premises registered at the end of the year were as follows:-

Offices .....	101.
Retail Shops .....	246.
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses .....	4.
Catering Establishments .....	43.
Fuel Storage Depots .....	2.

Class of Workplace and the number of persons employed:-

Offices .....	471.
Retail Shops .....	867.
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses .....	36.
Catering Establishments .....	304.
Fuel Storage Depots .....	6.

A total of 1,684, of which 964 are females.

#### SWIMMING POOLS.

Regular samples were taken of all swimming pools within the area and steps taken where necessary to ensure that they were at all times safe for bathing purposes. 33 samples were taken during the year.

Paddling Pools were also sampled and this enabled us to ensure that they were kept up to a satisfactory standard. 30 samples were taken.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

##### (a) Refuse Collection.

The maintenance of a satisfactory refuse collection service has continued throughout the year. The difficulties of maintaining an adequate labour force are still with us and it is only by regular advertising that we are able to obtain sufficient men to keep the service going.



It is still not generally realised how rapidly the work of the refuse collection department is expanding and I am now finding that the greatest difficulty I am experiencing in the department is that of lack of full time supervision by a qualified officer. The appointment of a supervisory officer for the purposes of refuse collection and disposal and salvage has not been found necessary in the past but the time is fast approaching when this matter will have to be considered.

Special Collections are still being arranged at the request of occupiers for which a reasonable charge is made.

(b) Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is being disposed of at a reasonably low cost by controlled tipping on the land at Stanpit Marsh. As the available tipping space in this area is rapidly diminishing, the Council will have to start giving serious consideration to future refuse disposal arrangements.

(c) Transport.

Better maintenance of vehicles has resulted in a reduction in the number of breakdowns. The spare vehicle, however, is not worth repairing and whilst, owing to restrictions on spending, we are trying to manage this year, replacement of this vehicle is now becoming a necessity.

SALVAGE.

The salvage section has continued to make progress and I am pleased to report that the income reached a record figure of nearly £4,000.

The restrictions on the sale of waste paper has eased slightly and it is hoped to take full advantage of this.

PEST CONTROL.

The work of this department is on the increase and the control of pests other than rodents is becoming more and more time consuming. All sewers in the area were test-baited and one section was found to be infested. This was treated for the first time with fluoroacetamide and excellent results were obtained.

The number of premises infested and the number of visits during the year have again increased.

Total number of premises infested and treated during the year .....	667.
Total number of visits during the year .....	2294.

#### FACTORIES.

All the factories in the area have continued to receive attention in order to ensure a satisfactory standard of hygiene, particularly in relation to sanitary conveniences and canteens.

#### GENERAL.

Many other duties are carried out by the department, such as investigation of smell, noise, smoke and fly nuisances, which all add to the work carried out by your Public Health Department.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, fellow officials in all Departments, and members of the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal support and co-operation.

CLEMENT WILLARD.

Chief Public Health Inspector  
and Cleansing Superintendent.

Stour Cottage,  
20 Barrack Road,  
Christchurch,  
Hants.

July, 1968.

# T A B L E 1.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

### Public Health Acts.

Housing inspections .....	47
Housing revisits .....	163
Animal keeping .....	35
Accumulations and deposits .....	125
Smell nuisances .....	126
Clean Air Act .....	24
Noise Abatement Act .....	21
Infectious diseases .....	26
Disinfection .....	1
Filthy and verminous premises/ articles .....	44
Disinfestation .....	32
Caravans (individual) .....	44
Camps .....	48
Houseboats .....	6
Water Supply .....	4
Drainage .....	1913
Soil vents, plumbing .....	318
Septic tanks, cesspools .....	81
Closet accommodation .....	50
Public conveniences .....	16
Dustbins .....	384
Refuse collection .....	299
Refuse disposal .....	497
Salvage .....	484
Places of public entertainment .....	11
Schools .....	3
Swimming baths .....	41
Ponds, ditches, streams .....	25
Foreshore .....	3

### Housing Acts

Housing inspections .....	33
Housing revisits .....	130
Overcrowding .....	10
Houses in multiple occupation .....	3

### Factories Act

Factories with power .....	128
Outworkers .....	37

### Pests Act

Rats and Mice .....	2157
Other pests .....	137

# T A B L E 1.

(continued.)

## Food and Drugs Act.

Catering .....	157
Bakehouses .....	8
School canteens .....	13
Bakers shops .....	31
Butchers shops .....	52
Grocers shops .....	192
Greengrocers and fruiterers .....	28
Fishmongers .....	13
Fish-friers .....	30
Ice-cream .....	34
Sweet shops .....	86
Milk shops, dairies .....	54
Licensed premises .....	71
Food vehicles .....	35
Food poisoning .....	1
Food inspections .....	104
Food complaints .....	45
Sampling .....	291

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

General Inspections .....	221
Revisits .....	240
Accident investigations .....	6

## Shops Act

Shops premises .....	298
Pet Animals Act .....	15

## Miscellaneous.

Unclassified visits .....	138
Interviews .....	13
Committees .....	37
Other complaints .....	8



## T A B L E 2.

The following statement shows in detail work carried out under the supervision of the Department.

### (a) Drainage and Sanitary Fittings.

New buildings drained .....	170
Premises re-drained .....	17
Repairs/alterations to existing drains .....	76
Length in yards drains laid .....	10,603 yds.
Manholes provided .....	711
Intercepting traps provided .....	2
New gulley traps provided .....	656
Soil and vent pipes provided .....	238
Water tests applied .....	646
Smoke tests applied .....	163
Air tests applied .....	185
Colour tests applied .....	-
Drainage defects remedied .....	31
Septic tanks and cesspools constructed .....	2
Septic tanks and cesspools abolished .....	3
Septic tanks and cesspools drainage connected to sewer ...	2
New W.C. pedestals provided .....	304
Flushing cisterns provided .....	351
Baths provided .....	300
Wash-hand basins provided .....	341
Sinks provided .....	314
Trapped waste pipes provided .....	870
Cesspools .....	1
W.C.s cleansed and repaired .....	34
Ventilation of W.C. and bathrooms .....	2

### (b) Miscellaneous.

Clothing accommodation .....	5
Eaves Guttering & downpipes renewed or repaired .....	3
Damp walls remedied .....	13
Windows repaired or renewed .....	7
Floorboards repaired or renewed .....	2
Doors repaired or renewed .....	6
Fireplaces repaired or renewed .....	1

T A B L E 2.

(Continued).

Chimney stacks repaired and repointed .....	2
Nuisance - smoke and fumes .....	3
Nuisance - Manure heaps .....	2
Dustbins provided .....	104
Dirty Domestic Conditions .....	1
Roofs repaired .....	9
Food vehicles .....	3
Rooms redecorated .....	10

SAMPLES AND SPECIMENS TAKEN

Ice Cream .....	175
Pet Foods .....	11
Drinking Water .....	4
Swimming Baths .....	33
Paddling Pools .....	30
Cesspools .....	21
Sea water .....	1
River water .....	3
Bonemeal .....	3
Food .....	17

### T A B L E 3.

During the year complaints were received as detailed below:-

Rats and Mice .....	359
Food .....	69
Defective dustbin, or absence of .....	150
Smells .....	23
Choked Drains .....	19
Defective Roof .....	5
General Defects .....	7
Dampness .....	17
Insanitary conditions - toilets .....	1
Fleas and bugs .....	17
Accumulation of refuse .....	66
Stream pollution .....	1
Nuisance from smoke or fumes .....	8
Nuisance from noise .....	8
Nuisance from animals, birds, adders .....	13
Nuisance from Insects & Wasps .....	54
Nuisance from cockroaches .....	4
Nuisance from overcrowding .....	1
Miscellaneous .....	5

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.

Table 4 shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

T A B L E 4.

NOTICES	OUTSTANDING 31.12.66.	NUMBER SERVED	COMPLIED WITH	WORK DONE BY L.A. IN DEFAULT	OUTSTANDING 31. 12. 67.
Informal	43	244	227	-	60
Statutory	2	2	2	-	2
TOTAL:	45	246	229		62

SUMMARY OF STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED:-

Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936 ..... 2



FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1967 FOR

THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the  
Factories Act, 1937.

PART I of the ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES:	Number on Register	N u m b e r o f		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	118	128	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)				
TOTAL:	128	128	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred:		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	10	10	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	17	16	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

NATURE OF WORK	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Out- workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served.	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel Millinery Plastics - Fancy Goods	4	-	-	-	-	-
	1	-	-	-	-	-
	32	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	37	-	-	-	-	-

